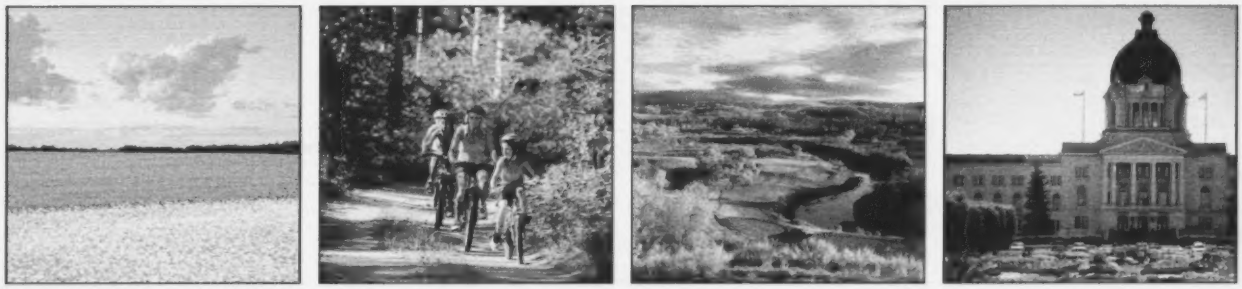
Ministry of Advanced Education



Plan for 2018-19

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Government of Saskatchewan

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Statement from the Minister

The Honourable
Tina Beaudry- Mellor

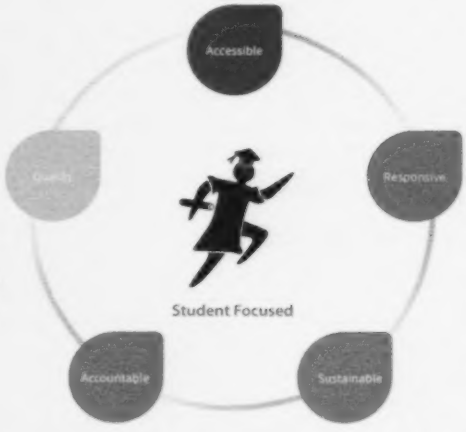
Minister of Advanced Education

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Advanced Education Plan for 2018-19. This plan details how our Ministry will support the Government's direction.

Government Direction and Budget for 2018-19 is focused on keeping Saskatchewan On Track by controlling spending, delivering high quality services for Saskatchewan people, keeping our economy strong, and returning to balance in 2019-20.

Our Ministry remains committed to providing a post-secondary education system that is responsive to the needs of students and promotes student success. We will foster inclusiveness and diversity and ensure that students have access to a variety of financial supports.

The Ministry will work with post-secondary institutions to provide programs, services and technology that are continuously improving, while focusing on the five expectations that guide the Ministry and Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions: quality, accessibility, accountability, sustainability and responsiveness.



The Ministry of Advanced Education will support our universities, colleges and technical institutes to provide education, training and research to meet the needs of Saskatchewan communities and labour markets. We will encourage collaboration and efficiency among Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions.

I am also pleased to be the Minister Responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan and the Status of Women Office. I look forward to creating synergies between the Ministry and these organizations, focusing on high quality post-secondary education, moving the Saskatchewan innovation agenda forward and raising awareness of issues affecting women.

The Ministry will report on progress made toward this plan in the 2018-19 Annual Report.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to keeping the province On Track through prudent fiscal management. We will succeed by spending wisely, supporting economic growth, and ensuring services are sustainable.

This focus will continue to advance Government toward the realization of Saskatchewan's Vision and goals.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2018-19 annual reports.

Operational Plan

Mandate Statement

The Ministry is responsible for the post-secondary education sector that supports a growing Saskatchewan and that leads to a higher quality of life. The Ministry places a high priority on meeting the needs of students by ensuring that our post-secondary sector is accessible, responsive, sustainable, accountable, and provides quality education. Working with our post-secondary institutions, the Ministry is focused on providing opportunities for all students, especially First Nations and Métis people, to prepare them to live, work and learn in Saskatchewan.

Mission Statement

The Ministry provides leadership and resources to foster a high-quality post-secondary education and training system that responds to the needs of Saskatchewan's people and economy.

The Ministry is also home for the Status of Women Office.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: improving education outcomes.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of accessibility, responsiveness and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post secondary sector is:

- **accessible** because it offers qualified people the opportunity to attend and succeed;
- **responsive** because it meets the needs of students, communities and the economy; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.

Ministry Goal

Students succeed in post-secondary education.

Strategy

Provide supports to promote student success.

Key Actions

- Ensure that students have access to a variety of financial supports (loans, grants, scholarships) so that post-secondary education is accessible and affordable.
  - Provide financial support to post-secondary institutions for the development of free open education resources (open textbooks) for students.
- Improve opportunities for students to succeed while transitioning into post-secondary education and during their studies by working with post-secondary institutions to:
  - Enhance learner pathway opportunities, including dual credit options (credit awarded at both high school and post secondary levels) and credit transfer (granting credit to a student for educational courses taken at another institution);

- Increase study abroad options;
- Expand work-integrated learning opportunities; and,
- Share knowledge and promising practices with respect to mental health supports for students.

- Provide financial support for Mitacs research internships, which equip Saskatchewan graduate students and post-doctoral fellows with work experience in Saskatchewan businesses.

Strategy

Foster an inclusive post-secondary sector where a diversity of students can enroll and succeed.

Key Actions

- Increase the enrolment and educational attainment of First Nations and Métis students by:
  - Providing targeted funding for Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies for its Student Support Services Model;
  - Providing targeted funding to Saskatchewan Polytechnic to support its Indigenous Student Success Strategy (formerly known as Aboriginal Student Achievement Plan); and,
  - Creating opportunities for institutions to collaborate on promising practices.
- Increase the enrolment and educational attainment of students with a disability by:
  - Working with the post-secondary sector to implement aspects of the Provincial Disability Strategy; and,
  - Administering program supports for students with disabilities.
- Increase the number of international students studying in Saskatchewan by:
  - Working with the post-secondary sector to implement the Post-secondary International Education Strategy; and,
  - Facilitating the process for Saskatchewan institutions to become designated by the federal government's International Student Program to host international students.
- Work with the post-secondary sector to implement the Vision 2030 plan for French post-secondary education in Saskatchewan.

Strategy

Provide programs, services and technology that evolve in response to client needs.

Key Actions

- Ensure technology and digital services continuously respond to client needs.
- Solicit citizen input and feedback on programs, services and the technology used to deliver them and make adjustments based on the results.
  - Conduct research to determine the reasons why post-secondary students leave their programs prior to getting a credential.

Performance Measures

Number of Saskatchewan Students Studying Abroad

The target is to increase the number of Saskatchewan students studying abroad by 50% by 2020.

Fall Term Student Head Count in Credentialed Programs

Enrolment indicators demonstrate system capacity and uptake. This data is used to monitor trends and inform planning for the sector. For international students, the target is to increase by 75% by 2020 (baseline year is 2012). For Indigenous students, the target is to increase by 60% by 2021 (baseline year is 2013).

Number of Credentials Awarded

Demonstrates student outcomes. This data is used to monitor trends, inform planning and support system responsiveness. For

Indigenous students, the target is to increase by 80% by 2021 (baseline year is 2013).

Post-secondary Educational Attainment of Population Aged 15 Years and Over

This measure changes slowly over time. The 2018-19 target is to maintain the current growth rate.

Post-secondary Educational Attainment of First Nations and Métis and non-First Nations and Métis Populations Aged 15 years and Over by Credential

Post-secondary Educational attainment measures change slowly over time. The long-term target is to match the attainment level of the First Nations and Métis population with the attainment rate of the overall Saskatchewan population.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priorities from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: increasing Saskatchewan's competitiveness, improving education outcomes and connecting workers and employers, and investing in skills training.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of responsiveness, quality and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post-secondary sector is:

- **responsive** because it meets the needs of students, communities and the economy;
- **high quality** because it meets required standards and maintains public confidence in the programs and services provided; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.

Ministry Goal

Meet the post-secondary education needs of the province.

Strategy

Ensure post-secondary funding supports Ministry and sector goals.

Key Actions

- Engage with post-secondary institutions on goals, strategies and financial requests to inform decision-making and provide direction.
- Work with post-secondary institutions to develop capital plans to inform government investments in infrastructure.

Strategy

Support post-secondary institutions to provide education, training and research to meet the needs of Saskatchewan communities and labour markets.

Key Actions

- Encourage post-secondary institutions to engage in education and research that generates innovative ideas and technologies that support Saskatchewan's future economic development.
- Identify training needs and support programs that align with the labour market including:

- Ensuring that the training system serves provincial labour market needs by working with the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training to support the Skills Training Sector Program Planning Committee;
- Working with the health sector to monitor and evaluate health occupation needs to inform provincial training;
- Managing interprovincial agreements to meet current and projected health labour market demands in specialized areas; and,
- Re-negotiating the interprovincial agreement with British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

Strategy

Strengthen program quality and responsiveness to Saskatchewan's economic and social needs.

Key Actions

- Examine Ministry legislation, regulations and policies so that they align with program and service needs.
  - Review *The Degree Authorization Act* to inform potential legislative and regulatory amendments.
- Ensure all new degree programs meet Saskatchewan's social, economic and quality standards according to *The Degree Authorization Act*.
- Monitor post-secondary institutions' compliance with all legislative, regulatory and policy requirements.

Performance Measures

Employment Rate by Credential

This measure changes slowly over time and is reflective of the economy and labour market. The 2018-19 target is for Saskatchewan's employment rate to remain higher than the national average.

Quality of Educational Experience

This measure demonstrates levels of graduate satisfaction with the overall quality of their educational experience. It is collected every five years in the Ministry of Advanced Education Post-Secondary Graduate Outcomes Study.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: delivering responsive and responsible government.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of sustainability and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post-secondary sector is:

- **sustainable** because it operates within available resources; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.

Ministry Goal

Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector is accountable and sustainable.

Strategy

Encourage Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions to operate efficiently.

Key Actions

- Identify opportunities to encourage collaboration and manage costs.
  - Lead efforts to increase efficiencies in the regional college system; and,
  - Lead the Action Team on Growth and Sustainability.
- Support continuous improvement efforts across the post-secondary sector.

Strategy

Strengthen mechanisms that demonstrate accountability for public investments.

Key Actions

- Promote government's five student-focused expectations for the post-secondary sector and monitor institutional progress toward meeting the five expectations.
- Advance the Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project to ensure consistent, comparable, sector-wide data is collected and available to inform planning, monitoring and reporting.
- Examine current post-secondary institution funding policies and practices.

Performance Measures

Expenditure to Revenue Ratios

The expenditures to revenue ratio demonstrates efficiency and long-term sustainability. It is used to inform planning for the sector, to compare with other jurisdictions and review trends.

Reliance on Revenue Source Ratios

Measures the comparison of an institution's revenue sources and provides a measure for assessing the sustainability of the sector if the proportion or distribution of revenue sources changes.

Status of Women Office

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

The Status of Women Office is the sole branch in government that reports on the status of women. It is responsible for conducting gender-based-analysis, developing and reporting on equality indicators, and collaborating with government and community-based stakeholders to monitor the impact of programs, services and initiatives of the Government of Saskatchewan on women This goal supports government's goal of securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people.

Goal

Raise awareness of issues affecting women and ensure gender considerations are integrated into government decision making processes.

Strategy

Work within government and with partners across the province to identify and address gender equality gaps.

Key Actions

- Evaluate the operations and activities of the Status of Women Office to identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.
- Work with internal and external stakeholders to ensure gender considerations and gender-based analysis are integrated into government decision-making.
- Conduct research and report on equality indicators.
- Identify priority areas of concern and test solutions for Saskatchewan women.
- Focus training and awareness activities in targeted areas.

Performance Measures

Under development in 2018-19.

Highlights

2018-19 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Advanced Education's 2018-19 budget totals $729.2M, which is $11.0M (1.5 %) higher than 2017-18. This level of funding reflects the Government's plan to invest in programs and services that Saskatchewan people value – today and into the future.

Key highlights include:

- Maintaining operating grants to the institutions at their 2017-18 levels, despite the fiscal challenges facing the province;
- Restoring $5M in funding to the University of Saskatchewan, which partially addresses an adjustment to the University's budget in 2015-16;
- Increasing funding for the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan by $18M to ensure a successful College that provides quality medical education; and,
- Increasing capital funding by $0.9M for repairs and maintenance.

$673.7M will be provided in operating and capital funding to post-secondary institutions, including:

- $469.8M to the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Regina and the federated and affiliated colleges;
- $151.4M to Saskatchewan Polytechnic, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, and Gabriel Dumont Institute;
- $30.1M to Saskatchewan's regional colleges; and,
- $22.4M for capital repairs and maintenance throughout the post-secondary sector.

$34.0M in financial supports will be provided to students, including:

- $21.5M to support the student loan program, which will provide repayable and non-repayable financial assistance to an estimated 16,000 students;
- Continuing our transparent system of up-front grants for students which will see learners in a typical eight-month program receive about $4,000 in combined federal and Saskatchewan grants per year of study; and,
- $12.5M for scholarships, such as the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship and the Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship.

The Ministry's budget also includes $0.3M for the Status of Women Office to support efforts to raise awareness of issues affecting women and their families and ensure gender considerations are integrated into government decision making.

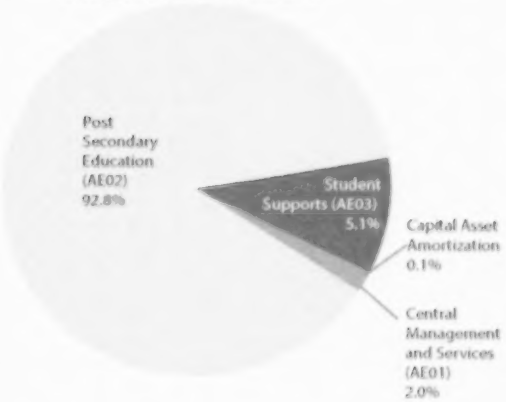
Financial Summary

Advanced Education Budget 2018-19 Estimates ($729.2 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	$ 14,706
Post-Secondary Education	$ 676,639
Student Supports	$ 37,642
Major Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Total Appropriation	**$ 728,987**
Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Capital Asset Amortization	167
Total Expense	**$729,154**

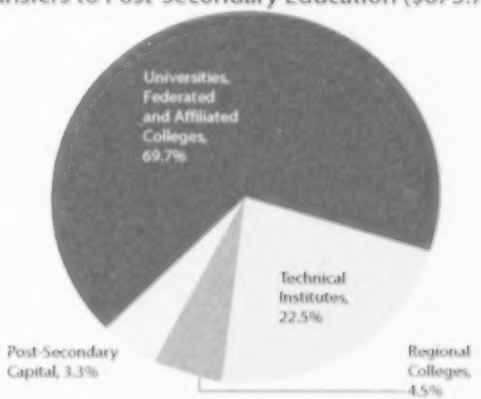
Advanced Education Transfers to Post-Secondary Institutions ($673.7 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Universities, Federated and Affiliated Colleges	$ 469,786
Technical Institutes	$ 151,426
Regional Colleges	$ 30,089
Post-Secondary Capital	$22,400
Total	**$ 673,701**

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget

Ministry of Advanced Education
Budget ($729.2 million)


Post Secondary Education (AE02) 92.8%
Student Supports (AE03) 5.1%
Capital Asset Amortization 0.1%
Central Management and Services (AE01) 2.0%

Ministry of Advanced Education
transfers to Post-Secondary Education ($673.7 million)



For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/advanced-education